THE WASATCH JUNCTION

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLDEN SPIKE CHAPTER
Railway & Locomotive Historical Society
2018
Vol. 22, Issue #

Board Members for 2018

President: Steve Jones 414-828-0166

Vice Pres.: Lee Secrist 801-397-3943

Membership/Treasurer: Maurice Greeson 801-776-5712

Secretary/Newsletter: Lee Witten 801-476-1209

Director: John Barrett 385-333-6468

Director: Richard Carroll

Director: Joshua Perry 750-792-0723

Next Two Meetings:

May 19, 2018 at 12 noon, Two Bit Cafe, 25th street
June 20, 2018 at 12 noon, Two Bit Cafe, 25th street

Meeting Notes for March 24, 2018

Minutes from February meeting reviewed and accepted

Treasurers Report: Balance of $15,589.87. We received $188 in donations during the Hostler's Festival shop open house.

223 Report: Joshua Perry said that he will start on the paint fume hood next week. He also reported on the Rhinoliner Company that we may use for the coating of the tender tank interior. The approx area is 445 square feet. If we do the prep work such as sanding down the walls to rough them up, we can save money. Perry will get an estimate for the job.

Preparation of the shop area is being made for eventually moving the locomotive cab to a different area of the shop behind the tender which will free up space in the center of the shop so we can use it for more working area.

We need to get the tender painted this summer. One of the crew and said he can get a canopy to cover the area of the platform outside to prevent paint spray from spreading.

Thomas Perry, Joshua's father is planning to have a class March 31st for the 223 crew about the milling & lathe tools so we understand their uses.

John Barrett reported on the Frame work. It is felt that a good steam cleaning would be sufficient to remove enough oxidation and grime so that a good coat of primer can be applied. Also any cracks can be dealt with.

We need to talk with Richard Carroll about the 223 boiler to make future plans.

Lee Witten reported that we have secured the Hilton Garden Inn at Ogden's Junction as our 2019 convention headquarters. R&LHS activities and joint sessions with the UPHS and the SPHS still need to be set up.

Steve Jones said that has asked FM 96.3, Station X96 if they would consider doing a broadcast on the 223.

Shaun Nelson and Lee Witten are working on setting up a Google Forms equipment inventory table on line. Shaun is investigating how to get it fully functional especially post editing of forms that have had some entries made. Lee has uploaded several equipment photos and preliminary data but these need to be completed when the editing problem is solved.

Meeting Notes for April 21, 2018

Financial report: Balance as of April is $15,481.89

Minutes, sent out through email. Approved

223 Report: Ongoing work on Running Gear. Andy Anderson expected next week to do some welding on the frame. Some issues on the front end which will involve cutting away and make a new casting for a corner hole.

Steve Jones is emailing with Nikki on grant writing. There's some frustration in trying to get her to respond.

Maurice - Excess machinery in our shop such as a valve grinder machine. We'll never use it. Should be try to sell them off. We can only sell that which was donated directly to our chapter.

John B. - the pins in the driver axles. Best to send them to Bonneville Machines to have them extracted. Money is an issue. We need to get the tender painted first. Maybe we can send one driver set to Bonneville. Don't spend all our money. We need about $40,000 to do all the wheels.

A discussion on the function of the timing gears on the driver axle.

Chairman's Message:

Last weekend we attempted to hold an open house during the Union Station Heritage Festival. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate and we had very few visitors. Thanks to our members and volunteers who prepared the restoration shop for the event and staffed it during the time that it was open. Slim, thank you for the crock pot. Delicious as always! Of course, thanks to the brave souls who braved the weather and visited with us. We love every opportunity we have to share the story of 223!

This topic has to stay at the top of our priorities. Fundraising and messaging are going to be more critical than ever as a number of the current activities require outside services to supplement our valuable volunteers. I've asked a couple of our members who are very involved with social media to come up with a way of making sure that we have a unified and consistent message across our web site, Facebook page, on the various railroad forums, etc. We are working through the USRMA to find a grant to fund the boiler project. We'll need to formulate another grant request to fund the Frame, running gear, and wheelset work. In addition, we've entered into discussions with several local financial institutions to request their assistance in finding sources of matching funds for any grants that we receive.

Recent activities include a visit by our friend Andy Anderson where he put his welding skills to work repairing some cracked and weak welds at the rear of the frame. The plan to organize ourselves into multiple focus groups is working well. Thanks to those of you taking lead roles in this process. We continue preparing the frame for a coat of primer. Work is continuing on trying to salvage the driver pins on the wheelsets that were seized in the driver bearings and badly pitted.

As soon as the weather clears we will resume the work to remove the catwalks from the boiler in order to have them sandblasted and primer coated and also to clear all obstacles to inspecting the boiler. In-house sandblasting continues on miscellaneous small parts that we can handle. An area has been set aside in the woodworking area to set up a painting booth where these parts can be given a coat of primer to protect them once cleaned.

We are formulating plans to replace the springs in the tender trucks. A major goal is to have the tender painted and lettered in time for the 2019 celebration. In parallel to all

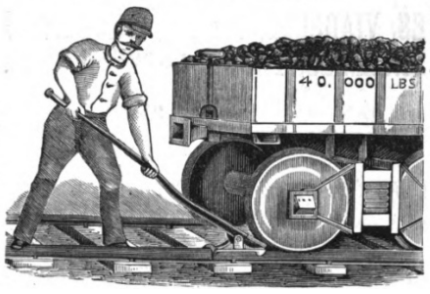
this physical activity we are working on tagging all parts and entering them along with descriptions and photographs into an electronic database so that when the time comes for re-assembly we will have references.

Lee Witten is our liaison with national for the Golden Spike Chapter to host the annual members' meeting during the 150th anniversary celebration of the driving of the golden spike in 2019. We have started to receive some information about what the Union Pacific, Ogden City, The State of Utah, the Golden Spike Historic Site, and the other Railroad historical organizations have planned. I'm sure Lee will share the details in another article. With the May 10th activities of last week we start the one year countdown until the 2019 celebration. Please volunteer to assist Lee in any way that you can. Now is the time to start thinking about activities for the R&LHS and joint activities with the other Railroad historical organizations meeting in Ogden.

The Railway & Locomotive Historical Society 2018 annual meeting will be held in St. Louis May 30 to June 3rd. See http://rlhs.org/Meetings/Current/ for more details. These meetings are always very well done so please try to attend if you can.

Our volunteer Steve Smith continues recovering in rehab after some severe medical issues. I'm sure he would appreciate phone calls or visitors. Let me know if you need his phone number.

Our mission of seeing the 223 restored to operation and being involved with all of the other restoration and railroad heritage activities here at Ogden Union Station takes both commitment and money. I ask each and every one of you to get involved with helping the Golden Spike Chapter move into the future. Become active in the organization and help keep that whistle blowin'.



GOLDEN SPIKE SESQUICENTENNIAL

The countdown clock has begun. The above clock display was started on the countdown Thursday at 12:50 p.m in a ceremony with the Weber County Spikers organization officiating. Museum coordinator, Holly Andrew, pushed the button and started the clock. The above photo was taken Saturday so we were two days closer to the big event.

Saturday morning at 8:30, a breakfast was held in the museum theater where Mike Plowman, Union Station Foundation's new marketing and financial manager, outlined the ambitious plans to raise money for the complete renovation and improvement of the Union Station, railroad equipment, laundry building and surrounding campus. He said that between 2019, the Golden Spike anniversary and 2024, the 100th anniversary of the Union Station building, there's a window of opportunity to take advantage of local, state, national and indeed international excitement about the Transcontinental railroad and its effect on our country.

Mike announced that Union Pacific has announced plans to bring the Big Boy 4014 and either the 844 or 3985, to Ogden May 8th, 2019. The museum plans 2 days of activities and no less than 4 major national railroad historical societies will be holding their conventions at the same time. The R&LHS, UPHS, and SPH&TS will meet in Ogden while the NRHS will meet in Salt Lake City. There will be individual organizational meetings and some combined activities such as a Saturday night banquet.

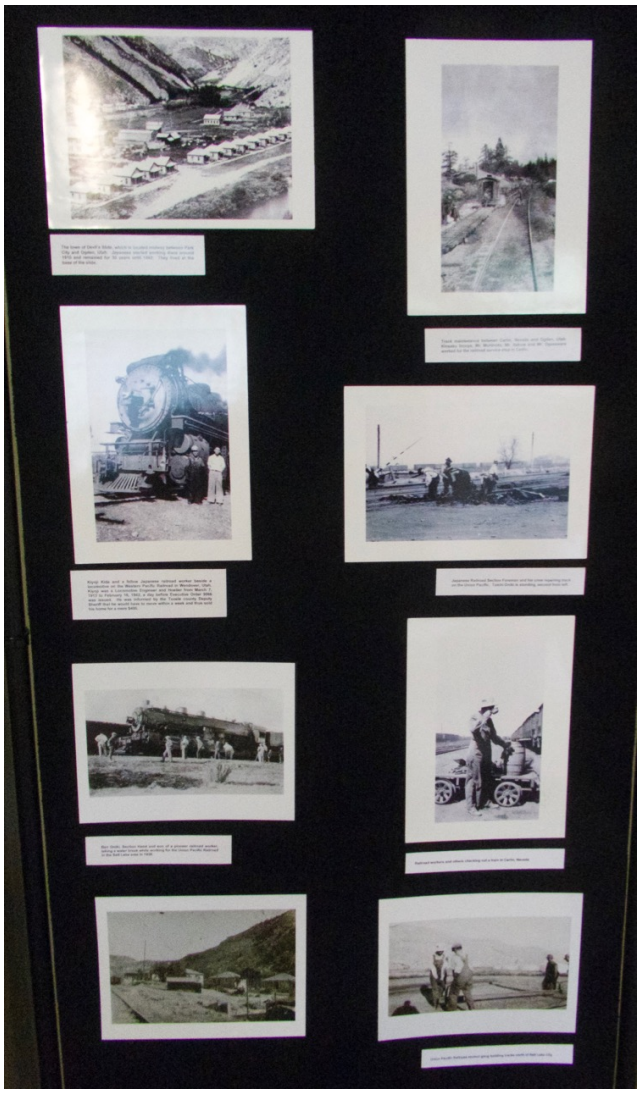
Ogden City and the State of Utah are also planning activities such as a Governor's Gala and Ball, concerts and such. Its going to be an exciting event with lots going on, lots of people descending on Ogden and the Golden Spike Historic Site in a very short period of time.

With all that will be going on, coordinating all of this will take some effective and timely communication. Lee Witten is our Chapter's liaison with our national and is also working with an email chain for each organization to keep in touch with the others. So stay tuned for further developments and all this begins to gel,

Andy Anderson, volunteer in absentia, visited us from his home in Arizona to lend us a hand with his welding skills. There were a few cracks in the rear of the frame that needed to be repaired so he gave us a good day's work.

Let's get organized!! While we have some down time from restoration work, we turned our attention to all those water and air hoses lying around the floor. So several of the shop crew nailed up so horizontal boards, attached some hardware and hung up the rat's nest of hoses.

Recently the Western Pacific Historical Society held their convention in Salt Lake City. A group of them rode the Front Runner to Ogden and took a tour of the museum. They stopped by our 223 restoration shop and Steve Jones provided a tour of the shop and our project.



One of the displays at the Saturday Heritage day in the museum was a panel depicting the role of the Japanese with railroading in America. We're learning more about the Chinese but few are aware of the Japanese. An historian at the University of Utah has been researching this topic and have obtained some rare photographs from private collections. Hopefully this research will be available to the public at some time.